

peripheral wall.

REMARKS

The rejection of claim 5 as anticipated under 35 USC 102(b) by Yamanaka is noted. Both Yamanaka and Dais, cited of interest, have been again carefully considered against the present invention as defined in claim 5. It is clear to applicant that the present invention is not anticipated by either of these references.

According to the present invention, the flange-shaped portion 13 of the sheet metal member can be thickened to a high degree by the use of the rollers 35-38 without causing buckling of the flange-shaped portion 13 at any time in the process because, for one thing, the flange-shaped portion 13 is inclined at an angle relative to the horizontal axis and because the root point defined by the engagement of the circular bottom pattern tool and the flange-shaped portion provides the flange-shaped portion with the necessary support when the radial pressing takes place.

If one examines Yamanaka and Dais they will see that neither has an equivalent root point nor a sufficiently inclined angle to allow for the application of a high enough force to produce a high degree of thickening.

In a separate letter to the Draftsman, applicant has requested approval to add root point P to Figs 2-6. a corresponding amendment has been made in the specification in conjunction with the discussion of these figures.

Also enclosed herewith is reduced scale reproduction of a portion of Yamanaka and Dais showing what may be considered root

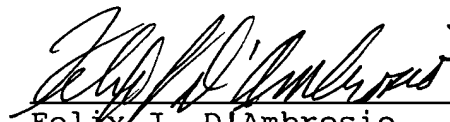
points P, but which are clearly not equivalent to the root point P shown in Figs. 2-6.

Claim 5 has been amended to add the root point feature and to also rearrange the claim somewhat so that it reads better.

The root point feature is not new to the application as it is clearly visible in the drawings even though it was not specifically previously pointed out. Material clearly visible in the drawings of an application as filed can be later identified more specifically if need be.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendments to the specification and claim 5 and acceptance of the drawing proposal is respectfully requested and claim 5 indicated as being allowable. Alternatively, it is respectfully requested that the above be entered for purpose of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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- [54] METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING DRIVE PLATE  
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[52] U.S. Cl. 29/893.34; 29/893.3; 72/68  
[58] Field of Search 29/893.34, 893.35, 893.36, 29/893, 893.3; 72/68

References Cited

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ABSTRACT

A method of manufacturing a driver plate comprises the steps of swaging the outer peripheral portion of a dish-shaped raw material in the radial direction thereof using a swaging die so as to form the outer peripheral portion in a thick wall portion, holding the swaged material between an upper and a lower die and pressing the material through the upper and lower dies so as to form it into a dish-shaped blank, and pressing radially the thick-walled outer peripheral portion of the dish-shaped blank held between a support die disposed either on the outside or on the inside thereof and a gear tooth profile forming die so as to form gear teeth either on the radially outside or on the radially inside of the outer peripheral portion. As an alternative, gear teeth may be formed by cold rolling work or gear teeth cutting work using a gear hobbing machine or one of other gear teeth cutting machines.

11 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

